

HOW PROPOSITION 63, THE MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES ACT, IS HELPING...



THE HOMELESS

75% of Proposition 63, Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) funding goes toward **Community Services and Supports** (CSS) programs. Homeless persons with mental illness are one of the priority populations identified to receive services by Proposition 63.

To help address the needs of this un-under-served population some CSS Services and Programs (Outreach and Engagement, Full Service Partnership, General Systems Development and the MHSA Housing Program) are being used by the various counties in California to do the following:

Project 50 **Los Angeles County**

This is a program in LA County's skid row area which identifies 50 of the area's most fragile and at risk residents. After 18 months the Project has housed a total of 59 people, 51 of whom remain housed as of June 2012.

For access to the complete report filed by Research and Evaluation Services in June 2012, follow the link below:
<http://zev.lacounty.gov/wp-content/uploads/Project-50-Cost-Effectiveness-report-FINAL-6-6-12.pdf>

Community of Wellness **Tulare County**

The Community of Wellness currently includes three supportive housing sites neighboring one another in Visalia: the Transitional Living Center (TLC), Community Living Center (CLC) and East Tulare Avenue Cottages (ETAC). In addition, the Community of Wellness encompasses two transitional supportive housing programs for transitional-age youth (TAY).

Community Intervention Program (CIP) **Sonoma County**

The CIP provides information and referral about behavioral health services at sites where homeless persons receive their services. CIP

staff also screen people for mental health issues and assess those who may need care.

Full Service Partnership (FSP) Programs **San Francisco**

This program is a recovery based, integrated, comprehensive service, based on a client-and family-centered philosophy of doing "whatever it takes" to assist individuals diagnosed with serious mental illness (SMI) or severe emotional disturbance (SED) to lead independent, meaningful, and productive lives. In 2011-12, FSP programs served 914 clients. The majority of clients served were adults (57%), followed by children, youth and families (26%), and TAY (9%) and older adults (9%). On note, one of the residential settings unique to San Francisco is MHSA stabilization housing. This option is available for TAY, adult, and older adult clients. MHSA stabilization allows a formerly homeless client to stay a maximum of 60 days in a single room occupancy (SRO) unit while s/he accumulates tenant history and completes the application process for more permanent housing. As a result, a client's opportunities to qualify for and transition to more permanent housing are improved.

North County Wraparound **Mendocino County**

This program provides intensive personalized service coordination for 10-12 homeless persons in Willits. A client services specialist provides case management, psycho-education/support group, linkage to other services, housing and employment referral, advocacy and "whatever it

takes.” The staff position is funded with 50% MSHA and 50% Medi-Cal funds.

TAY Full Service Partnership Orange County

This program serves youth who are 16-25 years old and are homeless, at risk of homelessness, culturally or linguistically isolated, and/or at risk of incarceration or psychiatric hospitalization. There are four programs with differing areas of focus:

- Focus on needs of Korean and Vietnamese populations
- Focus on broad spectrum of youth in community including youth experiencing first psychotic break and former foster youth; all of whom are or at risk of homelessness
- Focus on youth who have been exposed to significant rehabilitation attempts while in Orange County probation department
- Focus on youth involved in juvenile drug court

In the Youthful Offender Wraparound Program in the 12 months prior to enrollment, there were 372 episodes of incarceration. Since enrollment, consumers have only been incarcerated 86 times. In the year prior to enrollment, 147 participants have been homeless, in temporary housing or living in shelter.

Homeless PEER Partner Program Butte County

This program is a collaboration involving Butte County Department of Behavioral Health (BCDBH), the Torres Homeless Shelter, and Northern Valley Catholic Social Services. It uses peer partners to provide support to shelter guests who are experiencing mental illness. The goal is to increase the shelter guests' ability to effectively partake in services and to reinforce stable and secure housing. Peer partners are available during the Torres Shelter evening hours, building relationships with shelter guests, decreasing stigma around mental health issues, and guiding guests towards self-sufficiency.

- Peer Assistants interacted with 1559 shelter guests in FY 11/12 – 70% of guests were male and 30% were female. Additionally, there was one transgender guest

- The age range of guests reflected the entire lifespan. The shelter provides family rooms and 10% of the guests were children aged 0 – 15
- The peer assistants were in contact with the veteran population, 11.5% of all guests are veterans
- Peer assistants interacted with guests, made referrals, and led groups, all with the intention of increasing the length of stay of the guests

Odyssey Program

Marin County

The Odyssey Program is a full service partnership that provides culturally competent intensive, integrated services to 60 priority population adults who are homeless or at-risk of homelessness. The Odyssey Program provides comprehensive assessment, individualized client-centered service planning, linkages to provisions of all needed services and supports by a multi-disciplinary, multi-agency team available to clients 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

For more information regarding these specific programs or services for homeless/at risk of homeless services in California contact MHSOAC@MHSOAC.ca.gov or go to your county's website and look for programs under the Mental Health Services Act.

